I have always believed that the strength of the nation depends on the strength of America's families and communities. As you well know, we face tremendous challenges as a nation, but despite this—or perhaps because of it—Nebraskans continue to band together to serve the most vulnerable in our midst.

My website and Facebook page will occasionally highlight some of our "Hometown Heroes" who generously sacrifice time and provide assistance to improve the quality of life for persons in their communities.

Whether it is mentoring a struggling child, cleaning up and beautifying a neighborhood park, preparing hot meals, building a home to give shelter to someone in need, or setting aside time to read to children at your local library, every effort, no matter how large or small, gives strength to our hometowns, state, and country.

To acknowledge a Hometown Hero who has strengthened your community through service, please contact me at https://fortenberryforms.house.gov/contact-zip-auth.shtml. Please note the person's name and provide details of what he or she has done to better your hometown.